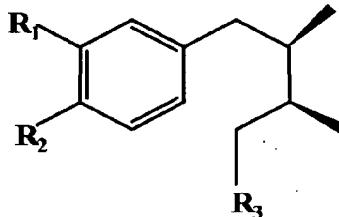


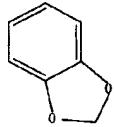
Claims

[1] An antibacterial composition against acne-causing bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Propionibacterium acnes*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*, the composition containing lignan compounds represented by Formula 1 or their pharmaceutically acceptable salts:

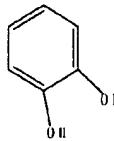
[Formula 1]



wherein each of R_1 and R_2 independently represents a C_{1-5} alkoxy group or a hydroxyl group, R_3 represents

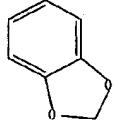


or



[2] A composition for treating acne, comprising lignan compounds represented by Formula 1 or their pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

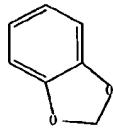
[3] The composition of Claim 1 or 2, wherein R_1 represents a methoxy group, R_2 represents a hydroxyl group, and R_3 represents



[4] A method for inhibiting the growth of acne-causing bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Propionibacterium acnes*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*, the method comprising administering an effective amount of lignan compounds represented by Formula 1 to a subject in need thereof.

[5] A method for treating acne, comprising administering an effective amount of lignan compounds represented by Formula 1 to a subject in need thereof.

[6] The method of Claim 4 or 5, wherein R₁ represents a methoxy group, R₂ represents a hydroxyl group, and R₃ represents



[7] Use of lignan compounds represented by Formula 1 for preparing antibacterial agents against acne-causing bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Propionibacterium acnes*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*.

[8] Use of lignan compounds represented by Formula 1 for preparing acne treatment agents.

[9] The use of Claim 7 or 8, wherein R₁ represents a methoxy group, R₂ represents a hydroxyl group, and R₃ represents

